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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I'm writing to express my support for broadband competition. For years, my only consumer option was Comcast. Not only was their customer service and support deplorable, they also made it quite difficult for us to discontinue our service with them (we finally escaped their clutches because we moved overseas). Now that we are back in the States, we are relieved that there is Sonic, a local option with competitive prices, amazing customer service and support, and community dedication.

The more control providers such as Comcast have over the market, the more money they can charge. My understanding is that they can also slow down internet speed. Therefore, it is imperative as a democratic nation to have choice. Lack of choice/competition diminishes our freedom as American citizens and places us in a precarious position of being forced to use one provider who may not have our best interests in mind.

Companies such as Sonic need continued access to copper as a bridge to fiber so that they can provide fast and affordable internet. Companies that attempt to maintain complete control over the market diminish equitable access to critical un-bundled network elements. I thus implore you not to take away access to critical un-bundled network elements that local, dedicated companies, such as Sonic, need.

Thank you.

Donna Scarlett